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angle of repose

Repose \Re*pose"\, n. [F. repos. See Repose, v.] 1. A lying at rest; sleep; rest; quiet.

Shake off the golden slumber of repose. --Shak.

2. Rest of mind; tranquillity; freedom from uneasiness; also, a composed manner or deportment.

3. (Poetic) A rest; a pause.

4. (Fine Arts) That harmony or moderation which affords rest for the eye; -- opposed to the scattering and division of a subject into too many unconnected parts, and also to anything which is overstrained; as, a painting may want repose.

Angle of repose (Physics), the inclination of a plane at which a body placed on the plane would remain at rest, or if in motion would roll or slide down with uniform velocity; the angle at which the various kinds of earth will stand when abandoned to themselves.

Syn: Rest; recumbency; reclination; ease; quiet; quietness; tranquillity; peace.

Source: *Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.*